

NORTH BINGHAM RECREATION AREA (PWS 6060110) SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT FINAL REPORT

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State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

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Under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, all states are required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess every source of public drinking water for its relative sensitivity to contaminants regulated by the Act. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is completing the assessments for all Idaho public drinking water systems. The assessment for the North Bingham Recreation Area drinking water source is based on a land use inventory within a 1,000 foot radius of the well source, sensitivity factors associated with the source, and characteristics associated with either your aquifer or watershed in which you live.

This report, *Source Water Assessment for North Bingham Recreation Area (PWS # 6060110)* describes the public drinking water system, the associated potential contaminant sources located within a 1,000 foot boundary around the drinking water source, and the susceptibility (risk) that may be associated with any associated potential contaminants. This assessment should be used as a planning tool, taken into account with local knowledge and concerns, to develop and implement appropriate protection measures for this system. **The results should not be used as an absolute measure of risk and they should not be used to undermine public confidence in the North Bingham Recreation Area water system.**

The North Bingham Recreation Area drinking water system consists of one well located approximately 900 feet east of the Snake River. Total coliform bacteria exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) in the water sampling efforts of September 1999 (well source sample). There is one potential contaminant source within the delineation capture zone.

The capture zone for this well intersects a Group 1 priority area for the synthetic pesticide Atrazine. It was identified because at least 25% of the local area wells have detections greater than 1% of the primary standard or other health standard. Since the North Bingham Recreation Area well is located in this area, the likelihood of pesticide impacts from local agricultural activities increases.

The susceptibility of the well to contamination was ranked as high, moderate, or low risk according to the following considerations: hydrologic characteristics, physical integrity of the well, land use characteristics, and potentially significant contaminant sources. The susceptibility rankings are specific to a particular potential contaminant or category of contaminants. Therefore, a high susceptibility rating relative to one potential contaminant does not mean that the water system is at the same risk for all other potential contaminants. The relative ranking that is derived for each well is a qualitative, screening-level step that, in many cases, uses generalized assumptions and best professional judgement.

Hydrologic sensitivity was rated high for the well. This is based upon moderate to well drained soil classes defined by the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Soils that have poor to moderate drainage characteristics have better filtration capabilities than faster draining soils. The well is also potentially sensitive due to the vadose zone composition (zone from land surface to the water table), the first depth to ground water, and the lack of at least 50 feet of cumulative thickness of low permeability material that could reduce the downward movement of contaminants. Well construction was rated moderate for the well. The well construction directly affects the ability to protect the aquifer from contaminants. The well casing and annular seal do not extend into a low permeable unit. The final susceptibility ranking for the well is high for

inorganic and synthetic organic contaminants and moderate for volatile organic and microbial contaminants (Table 2). A copy of the susceptibility analysis for the North Bingham Recreation Area system along with a map showing any potential contaminant sources is included with this summary. Information regarding the potential contaminants within the 1,000-foot boundary have been summarized and included in Table 1.

Table 1. North Bingham Recreation Area Potential Contaminant Inventory

Site #	Source Description	Source of Information	Potential Contaminants ¹
1	Sand and Gravel Mine	Database Inventory	VOC, SOC

¹VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical

Table 2. Summary of North Bingham Recreation Area Susceptibility Evaluation

Well	Susceptibility Scores ¹									
	Hydrologic Sensitivity	Contaminant Inventory				System Construction	Final Susceptibility Ranking			
		IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbials		IOC	VOC	SOC	Microbials
1	H	M	M	M	L	M	H	M	H	M

¹H = High Susceptibility, M = Moderate Susceptibility, L = Low Susceptibility

IOC = inorganic chemical, VOC = volatile organic chemical, SOC = synthetic organic chemical

This assessment should be used as a basis for determining appropriate new protection measures or re-evaluating existing protection efforts. No matter what ranking a source receives, protection is always important. Whether the source is currently located in a “pristine” area or an area with numerous industrial and/or agricultural land uses, the way to ensure good water quality in the future is to act now to protect valuable water supply resources.

For the North Bingham Recreation Area source water protection activities should focus on implementation of practices aimed at keeping the distribution system free of microbial contaminants. The system will want to consider using disinfection if persistent microbial problems ever arise. The water system should also consider developing a wellhead protection plan. Source water protection activities should be aimed at long-term management strategies even though these strategies may not yield results in the near term. For assistance in developing protection strategies please contact the Pocatello Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality at (208) 236-6160.

POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT INVENTORY LIST OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

AST (Aboveground Storage Tanks) – Sites with aboveground storage tanks.

Business Mailing List – This list contains potential contaminant sites identified through a yellow pages database search of standard industry codes (SIC).

CERCLIS – This includes sites considered for listing under the **Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)**. CERCLA, more commonly known as ASuperfund, is designed to clean up hazardous waste sites that are on the national priority list (NPL).

Cyanide Site – DEQ permitted and known historical sites/facilities using cyanide.

Dairy – Sites included in the primary contaminant source inventory represent those facilities regulated by Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and may range from a few head to several thousand head of milking cows.

Deep Injection Well – Injection wells regulated under the Idaho Department of Water Resources generally for the disposal of stormwater runoff or agricultural field drainage.

Enhanced Inventory – Enhanced inventory locations are potential contaminant source sites added by the water system. These can include new sites not captured during the primary contaminant inventory, or corrected locations for sites not properly located during the primary contaminant inventory. Enhanced inventory sites can also include miscellaneous sites added by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) during the primary contaminant inventory.

Floodplain – This is a coverage of the 100-year floodplains.

Group 1 Sites – These are sites that show elevated levels of contaminants and are not within the priority one areas.

Inorganic Priority Area – Priority one areas where greater than 25% of the wells/springs show constituents higher than primary standards or other health standards.

Landfill – Areas of open and closed municipal and non-municipal landfills.

LUST (Leaking Underground Storage Tank) – Potential contaminant source sites associated with leaking underground storage tanks as regulated under RCRA.

Mines and Quarries – Mines and quarries permitted through the Idaho Department of Lands.)

Nitrate Priority Area – Area where greater than 25% of wells/springs show nitrate values above 5mg/l.

NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) – Sites with NPDES permits. The Clean Water Act requires that any discharge of a pollutant to waters of the United States from a point source must be authorized by an NPDES permit.

Organic Priority Areas – These are any areas where greater than 25 % of wells/springs show levels greater than 1% of the primary standard or other health standards.

Recharge Point – This includes active, proposed, and possible recharge sites on the Snake River Plain.

RICRIS – Site regulated under **Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA)**. RCRA is commonly associated with the cradle to grave management approach for generation, storage, and disposal of hazardous wastes.

SARA Tier II (Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Tier II Facilities) – These sites store certain types and amounts of hazardous materials and must be identified under the Community Right to Know Act.

Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) – The toxic release inventory list was developed as part of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know (Community Right to Know) Act passed in 1986. The Community Right to Know Act requires the reporting of any release of a chemical found on the TRI list.

UST (Underground Storage Tank) – Potential contaminant source sites associated with underground storage tanks regulated as regulated under RCRA.

Wastewater Land Applications Sites – These are areas where the land application of municipal or industrial wastewater is permitted by IDEQ.

Wellheads – These are drinking water well locations regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. They are not treated as potential contaminant sources.

NOTE: Many of the potential contaminant sources were located using a geocoding program where mailing addresses are used to locate a facility. Field verification of potential contaminant sources is an important element of an enhanced inventory

Ground Water Final Susceptibility Scoring

0-5 = Low Susceptibility

6-12 = Moderate Susceptibility

13-18 = High Susceptibility

1. System Construction		SCORE			
Drill Date	8/13/76				
Driller Log Available	YES				
Sanitary Survey (if yes, indicate date of last survey)	YES	2000			
Well meets IDWR construction standards	NO	1			
Wellhead and surface seal maintained	YES	0			
Casing and annular seal extend to low permeability unit	NO	2			
Highest production 100 feet below static water level	NO	1			
Well located outside the 100 year flood plain	YES	0			
Total System Construction Score		4			
2. Hydrologic Sensitivity					
Soils are poorly to moderately drained	NO	2			
Vadose zone composed of gravel, fractured rock or unknown	YES	1			
Depth to first water > 300 feet	NO	1			
Aquitard present with > 50 feet cumulative thickness	NO	2			
Total Hydrologic Score		6			
3. Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1A		IOC Score	VOC Score	SOC Score	Microbial Score
Land Use Zone 1A	IRRIGATED PASTURE	1	1	1	1
Farm chemical use high	YES	2	0	2	
IOC, VOC, SOC, or Microbial sources in Zone 1A	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Total Potential Contaminant Source/Land Use Score - Zone 1A		3	1	3	1
Potential Contaminant / Land Use - ZONE 1B					
Contaminant sources present (Number of Sources)	YES	0	1	1	0
(Score = # Sources X 2) 8 Points Maximum		0	2	2	0
Sources of Class II or III leacheable contaminants or	YES	4	1	0	
4 Points Maximum		4	1	0	
Zone 1B contains or intercepts a Group 1 Area	YES	0	0	2	0
Land use Zone 1B Greater Than 50% Irrigated Agricultural Land		4	4	4	4
Total Potential Contaminant Source / Land Use Score - Zone 1B		8	7	8	4
Cumulative Potential Contaminant / Land Use Score		11	8	11	5
4. Final Susceptibility Source Score		13	12	13	12
5. Final Well Ranking		High	Moderate	High	Moderate